



JULY 27, 2025
17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC CHURCH
7717 RIVER ROAD - TOWNSEND, TN 37882
865 - 448 - 6070
WEBSITE: STFRANCISTOWNSEND.ORG
E-MAIL: STFRANCISTOWNSEND7717@GMAIL.COM

MASS & CONFESSION SCHEDULE

HOLY MASS: Saturday 4:00PM (Vigil Mass) The Rosary is prayed 35 minutes before each Weekend Mass
Sunday 9:00AM
DAILY MASS: MON, TU, TH & FRI: 8:30AM **(NO MASS ON WEDNESDAYS)** Check bulletin/website for changes
CONFESSION: Saturday before Mass: 3:00 - 3:40 PM (Church confessional)
Sunday Before Mass: 8:15 - 8:40 AM (Church confessional)
Confessions may also be scheduled by calling the parish office for an appointment.
HOLY DAYS: Check bulletin or website

PARISH MINISTRY TEAM

PASTORRev. Antonio Giraldo	GARDENS & GROUNDS Ilene Rainwater
DEACONDeacon Jim Schmall	FACILITIES David Girard
OFFICE MANAGERSKatrina Allocco & Lesa Schmall	SOCIAL MEDIA/WEBSITE JoAnne Romer-Aylward
BOOKKEEPERKathleen Halligan	PASTORAL CARE Suzie Fay
LITURGY/MUSIC DIRECTORJoAnne Romer-Aylward	ST. CLARE GIFT SHOP Camilla Sorrell
DIR. OF RELIGIOUS ED.Julie Dew	COLUMBARIUM Bob Eberhardt
RCIA/OCIADc. Jim Schmall	WELCOMING, EVENTS & All Parishioners
ART & ENVIRONMENTMichele Girard	SOCIALS TEAM (WEST)

PARISH ASSOCIATIONS

COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN: Ilene Rainwater **ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY:** Debbie Eberhardt

NEW PARISHIONERS: Please contact the pastor or ask an usher for a registration form, and then place the completed form in the offertory basket or mail it to the church office. For more information call 865-448-6070.

PARISHIONERS: Please report any change of contact information to the parish office via e-mail, mail or phone.

BAPTISM: Parents are required to attend the Baptismal Prep Class. Your family must be registered in the parish.

MARRIAGE: Contact the office a minimum of six months prior to the wedding for planning and preparation.

ANointing OF THE SICK: Anyone entering the hospital or in serious ill health is encouraged to be anointed.

BULLETIN DEADLINE: Please email Microsoft Word articles to sfbulletin7717@gmail.com with the subject of "Bulletin Announcement" by Tuesday 12:00PM. All submissions are subject to further editing.



How can St. Francis of Assisi be of assistance/service to you & your loved ones?
Please contact Suzie Fay with our Pastoral Care Ministry at 423-829-5466 or the Parish office at 865-448-6070.

MASS INTENTIONS: (Mass cards are available upon request at the office.)

Mon	7/28	8:30 AM	Ruben Fraire†
Tue	7/29	8:30 AM	James Hrom†
Wed	7/30	NO MORNING MASS	
Thu	7/31	8:30 AM	Elias, Genoveva, & Graciela Ventura†
Fri	8/1	8:30 AM	Dăng Thi (tee) Sinh (see)†
Sat	8/2	4:00 PM	Mark Ruiz†
Sun	8/3	9:00 AM	Tranquilino Martin M.

To schedule a Mass intention, please contact the Parish Office via phone or email or in person during office hours. Please specify whether the Mass Intention is for a living or deceased loved one. The usual requested donation for a Mass intention is \$10.00 in the Diocese of Knoxville.



PRAYER REQUESTS: (Homebound, sick or recovering parishioners, friends and relatives): Pat Sanders, Doreen Mancuso, Naomi Nwadike, David Holmes, Amy Frink, Claire Cheadle, Elise Martin, Paul Fain, Joyce Fain, Charles Tippitt, Emmanuel Nwadike, Julie Schirack, Laken DuRussel, Marcus Bolte, Louann Felske, Stephanie Romer, John & Maria Bermudes, Michael Slater, Rocky Brach, Dennis Richards, Jeff Herzog, Marion McCaughey, Sue Wood, Sue Corsini, Adela Mauer, Bill Irby, Teresa Williams, Jeffrey Garrison, Ann Day, Layla Sexton, Ed Welsh, Thomas Fay, Sofia Graziano, Dale DuRussel, Suzie Fay

SANCTUARY FLOWERS:

If you would like to donate to the altar flowers fund in memory of or in honor of someone, contact the Parish Office via phone or email. The cost is \$40.00 for 1 week. Thank You!



SANCTUARY CANDLE:

The sanctuary candle is lit in memory of Jack Troupe given by Camilla Sorrell for Eternal Light. If you would like to donate to the sanctuary candle fund in memory of or in honor of someone, please contact the Parish Office via phone or email. The cost is \$15 for 1 week. Thank You!



INSPIRATIONAL QUOTES TO PROMOTE DEVOTION TO JESUS IN THE EUCHARIST

*St. Maria Goretti
1890 - 1902*

*“The Holy Eucharist
is the perfect expression
of the love
of Jesus Christ
for Man.”*



ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK IN OUR PARISH

Mon	7/28	9:00 AM	Church & Hall Cleaning
Tue	7/29		
Wed	7/30		
Thu	7/31		
Fri	8/1	9:00 AM	Adoration
Sat	8/2	4:00 PM	Vigil Mass
Sun	8/3	9:00 AM	Sunday Mass
		2:30 PM	Parish Picnic - Concord Yacht Club

ST. CLARE GIFT SHOP

Open after weekend Masses and by request/appointment after daily Mass





THE OUR FATHER PRAYER A PRAYER TO PRAY FROM OUR HEARTS TO OUR FATHER

Today, we have the examples of Abraham praying and Jesus teaching his disciples – and us – how to pray. Abraham gives us an example of persistent praying. He never gave up on God. There was a reason for his persistence. He knew God was willing to be merciful to sinners. Think of that and how Abraham just didn't give up on asking God to spare the people.

Abraham's persistence was amazing and admirable, maybe tiring, but God's mercy is also amazing and admirable. Prayer is not magic, although we sometimes expect it to be. We think that if we pray hard and long enough, we will get what we are asking for. No, this isn't true, but that is no reason to give up praying.

Jesus says to pray for what God wants to give. God, Our Father wants to give us the Holy Spirit. What we need to do is to pray from the heart with our Father, our Friend, We won't necessarily get what we ask for, but we will receive the Holy Spirit, the best and the most powerful answer, for it is the Spirit who enables us to love and trust in the midst of the most difficult situations in life. This isn't pie in the sky. It is for real.

Think of the power of God. God is God! God can do anything. Think of what God has done in creation. How blessed we are in our planet, the beauty of canyons, lakes, oceans, trees, people. Think of what God could do in our world's situation. God could end war and restore what has been destroyed. God can do anything. So, the big question is: What can we do, and what can we pray God will do?

This is no kindergarten question. Jesus' disciples asked him to teach them to pray, and he taught them what we know as the Our Father. Jesus said to address his Father, whose power is dedicated to sharing his love. For us, power is always frightening, violent, controlling. But God is our loving Father; our salvation, and our happiness comes from him. Let us keep this in mind: our salvation and our happiness come from God, who loves us as our Father. When we pray for God's kingdom to come, we pray for our trust in God for what he wants for us to happen in the end of time so that we can be with him forever. When we pray for his kingdom to come, we pray for the victory of his love for us. What more could we want?

And then we pray for our daily bread. What do we need as our daily bread from the Father? We need courage and hope, so we don't give up. This daily bread can transform our sinfulness and guilt into freedom and light so we can truly make our journey to God. And we can also learn to forgive, too, because how can we expect to be forgiven if we don't forgive as well? So much of this prayer is more special when we don't rattle it off but instead pay attention to what we are praying. We need to be attentive to this prayer to our Father, and knowing it is Jesus who taught it to us make it all the more a prayer to pray from the heart to our Father.



Let your constant practice be to offer yourself to God, that He may do with you what He pleases.



- *St. Aloysius Gonzaga*
DailySaintsWisdom.com

CATECHISM

OR
N
E
R



BY: David Quinn

THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

Matrimony is the only sacrament that is a covenant. A covenant is different from a contract or other type of legal agreement. Contracts have conditional terms where one party promises certain actions in exchange for actions by the other party. If either party breaks the terms of a contract, the contract becomes void. Additionally, contracts tend to have end dates or terms that nullify the agreement.

A covenant is an eternal promise that has no conditions set against it. This is why at a wedding each person promises to love the other person in sickness and health, in good times and in bad, for as long as they both shall live. Okay, so there is one condition placed on this covenant – “as long as we both shall live.” Because it is an eternal promise, the Church ensures both parties enter the marriage willingly and with no reservations. This is also why the Church wants the couple to go through marriage preparation.

The words for the vows are specific for a Catholic wedding. Couples do not get to write their own vows. The priest, or deacon, officiating the wedding will let the couple know that if they have a public statement they would like to make concerning their marriage, they can take care of that at the rehearsal dinner or at the reception. A sacramental rite is no time for a groom to promise not to leave his socks on the floor instead of placing them in the hamper.

Since the marriage is a sacrament, there is supposed to be a salvific action occurring. This is not just about the wedding ceremony though. Yes, grace is imparted at the time of the exchange of vows but grace is also imparted every day that the couple shares their love with each other. This sharing allows them to help each other in their quest for salvation through the Lord.

Additionally, the couple are helping others outside their marriage to gain grace by sharing their love in witness of the Lord's love. This is another reason why weddings have witnesses. Not just to confirm that they exchanged vows but to see how God's love is helping the couple head towards salvation. Any actions we do throughout our lives should always shed God's grace on others but through the particular grace shared by a married couple, others are receiving grace as well.

In Matthew 19, Jesus states God's intention for marriage. He even reminds us that the man and woman are no longer two, but one. Being a sacrament, God is in there too. Marriage, in a way, reflects the Holy Trinity by confirming there are not three separate individuals but one blessed relationship.



Matrimony



CONCORD YACHT CLUB
11600 South Northshore Dr.
Knoxville, TN 37922
concordyachtclub.org

PARISH PICNIC
SUNDAY, AUGUST 3, 2025
2:30 - 7:30

- The Parish will provide burgers, hot dogs, buns, and condiments
- Parishioners, please BYO drinks and a side dish to share (Sign up in Shea Hall)
- Please BYO lawn chairs (picnic benches available in the pavilion)
- Both the indoor air-conditioned Clubhouse and the outdoor Pavilion are reserved for our use
- Buffet dinner will begin at 3:00 PM



THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

In the Gospel, Jesus teaches us that God is our "Father" and just as a parent's love for their children is unlimited, so is God's love and care for us unlimited.

Have you considered answering the call to serve the poor by joining the Society of St. Vincent de Paul? Contact Debbie Eberhardt at 865-312-0141 for more information.

SVDP typically meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month at 5:00 PM in the PRC. However, we are going into a "summertime" meeting mode and our upcoming meetings for the summertime are: August 6th, and August 20th.

SVDP JULY "PRODUCT OF THE MONTH" SOUP



Thank You for your continued support of SVDP!



THANK YOU, *Gather Good News!*

FOR YOUR VERY GENEROUS DONATION OF

\$780.00

TO OUR SVDP FOOD PANTRY



Gather Good News is a local Wears Valley monthly electronic publication via subscription. The editor, Bill Gathergood, and all the patrons/subscribers of the newsletter selected St. Vincent de Paul's Townsend Food Pantry as the recipient of their donated subscriptions fees.

Gather Good News currently has 74 subscribers, several of whom donated over and above their subscription fee to benefit our St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry. The publication also enjoys readership from people in England and Asia who send money to local charities since it is impossible for them to send their subscriptions directly to *Gather Good News*.

Thank You to *Gather Good News* for the monetary donation! During these times of increased grocery fees, this is a blessing to us. We were able to feed 15 Families the month of June! Additionally, we helped some Neighbors in Need with utility bills.

Together, We Are the Eyes and Hands of Christ!

ST. FRANCIS BREAKFAST GRITS

(A regularly appearing crowd favorite at the 10:00 AM Sunday Fellowship!)



PREPARATION

- Preheat oven 350 deg.
- Grease a 9 x 13 baking dish

INGREDIENTS

- 2 cups water
- 1 1/4 cups milk
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 cup quick grits
- 1/2 cup butter
- 1/3 cup finely chopped green onions
- 4 oz Velveeta cubed
- 1/4 tsp garlic powder
- 2 1/2 cup shredded cheddar cheese - halved
- 1 can Rotel (original)
- 1lb. roll breakfast sausage browned

DIRECTIONS

- Bring water and milk to a boil.
- Add salt and grits, return to boil, reduce heat and cover. Cook for 3-5 minutes or until thick and creamy.
- Add butter, Velveeta, and **HALF** (1 1/4 cup) of cheddar cheese.
- Brown sausage and sauté green onions.
- Add garlic powder and Rotel to sausage.
- Combine with grits and pour into 9x13 greased casserole dish.
- Bake at 350 degrees for 40 minutes.
- Top with remaining cheese and cook for 5 more minutes or until cheese melts.

FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION - 8/1/25



“Always remain close to the Catholic Church, because it alone can give you true peace, since it alone possesses Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, the true Prince of Peace.”

- St. Padre Pio

Mass: 8:30 AM
Adoration: 9:00 - Noon
Healing Service: 9:00 AM (in Shea Hall)
Benediction: Noon

If you are interested in committing to a Holy Hour, please contact Jackie Wagner at 330-807-8663.

HEALING MINISTRY AT ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH



Our healing ministry here at St. Francis of Assisi complements our First Friday of the Month Mass and Adoration.

The healing service is offered concurrently with adoration. Healing ministers are available in Shea Hall and the sacristy while Adoration is available in the church.

When you would like Healing Prayers after the 1st Friday Mass, please come into Shea Hall and a prayer minister will pray for you individually in the Sacristy.

Our Healing Ministry is made up of lay ministers who have been trained to pray for your needs and healing. During our time with you, you will be advised that this is NOT a Sacrament (such as Anointing of the Sick). You will be asked for permission to lay hands on your shoulders while being prayed for and you will be offered Holy Water to use for blessing yourself and then faithfully receive our healing prayers. Healing prayers will be for emotional, physical and/or spiritual healing.

If you would like to be trained to be a part of the healing team, please call Darlene Leitz at 574-238-1705 or email darby321@comcast.net for more information.

*“Heal me, Lord, that I may be healed;
save me, that I may be saved,
for you are my praise.” (Jeremiah 17:14)*

AUGUST 2 & 3 SECOND COLLECTION - MAINTENANCE FUND



Your donations made to this fund will help pay for the rising cost of maintaining our aging buildings and to continue with preventative maintenance. This would not be possible without your generous contributions to the Maintenance Fund! Thank you for your support!

Visitors to our beautiful little church on the Little River frequently ask where their donation would be of the most use. We are very thankful for our visitor's financial contributions, especially during our lean winter months when tourism typically declines. This Maintenance Fund would be a great choice for making your donation!

To contribute to this fund, please place your pre-printed envelope in the **second** collection basket the weekend of August 2nd & 3rd. If you do not have a pre-printed envelope, you may place cash or check in the **second** collection basket.

PLEASE MAKE ALL CHECKS PAYABLE TO ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CHURCH.

If you choose to mail in your donation, please mark on the envelope or check that it is for the "Maintenance" Fund and send it to:

St. Francis of Assisi Church (Maintenance Fund Contribution)
7717 River Rd. Townsend, TN 37882



UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	DETAILS
8/2/2025	"A Very Special Day with the Bishop" St. John Neumann, Farragut (Knoxville)	Online: https://tinyurl.com/36wxf2d3 E-mail: knoxcvjulie@gmail.com Phone: 865-862-5753
8/3/2025	Parish Picnic at Concord Yacht Club Sunday 2:30PM - 7:30PM	Online: N/A E-mail: stfrancistownsend7717@gmail.com Phone: 865-448-6070
8/29-31/2025	Retrouvaille Weekend Nashville, TN	Online: https://retrouvaille.org E-mail: 3043@helpourmarriage.org Phone: 931-820-2115
9/20/2025	Hundredfold Workshop All Saints Church—Knoxville 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM	Online: dioknox.org E-mail: Scan QR code on poster in Shea Hall Phone: 931-820-2115
9/20-10/9/2025	11-Day Jubilee Pilgrimage to the Shrines of Italy with Fr. Bill McNeeley	Online: Scan QR code on poster in Shea Hall E-mail: ascensiontourstravel@gmail.com Phone: 800-351-9893
9/27/2025	Emma Fradd—Unplugged Concert Diocese of Knoxville Young Adult Ministry	Online: dioknox.org E-mail: Scan QR code on poster in Shea Hall Phone: N/A
12/14/2025	Parish Christmas Party Tremont Lodge - Townsend, TN	Online: N/A E-Mail: stfrancistownsend7717@gmail.com Phone: 865-448-6070

A VERY SPECIAL DAY WITH THE BISHOP



You are invited to join Bishop Mark Beckman for a faith-filled day of fun for special needs individuals and their families! "A Very Special Day with the Bishop" will be held on Saturday, August 2 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at St. John Neumann, 633 St. John Court in Farragut. Following Mass, there will be activities, skits, and lunch! Please register by July 26 if you plan to attend: <https://tinyurl.com/36wxf2d3> If you have questions, please contact Julie Radachy (knoxcvjulie@gmail.com).

CFO

DIOCESAN JOB POSTING - CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER (CFO)

The Diocese of Knoxville is seeking a mission-driven and highly experienced Chief Financial Officer (CFO) to lead the financial operations of the diocese. For detailed information about this position, please see the job posting document on the Diocesan bulletin board in Shea Hall. Please visit the diocesan website (dioknox.org/employment) to view additional job opportunities within the Diocese.